

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (previously presented): An electrical connector for electrically connecting an electronic package with a circuit substrate, the connector comprising:

an insulative housing with a plurality of conductive terminals received therein; and

a stiffener substantially surrounding the housing;

a metal clip and a lever mounted on opposite sides of the housing;

wherein the stiffener comprises at least one spring finger extending therefrom for locating the housing in a horizontal direction, and at least one latch extending therefrom for locating the housing in a vertical direction.

Claim 2 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a rear portion, the housing defines at least one guiding slot in a side thereof, and the rear portion defines at least one locating slot in a bottom thereof.

Claim 3 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one spring finger of the stiffener is located in the at least one locating slot of the housing, and the at least one latch of the stiffener mates in the at least one guiding slot and is engaged on a top surface of the housing.

Claim 4 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 3, wherein the stiffener comprises a substantially rectangular supporting portion, the supporting portion comprises a front end, a back end, and a pair of sides respectively interconnecting the front and back ends, and the front and back ends and the sides cooperatively define a central opening therebetween.

Claim 5(original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 4, wherein

each side has a first wall extending therefrom, and the front and back ends each have a second wall extending therefrom.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first walls extend substantially upwardly from the sides, and the second walls extend substantially upwardly from the respective front and back ends and then bend inwardly and extend in substantially horizontal directions.

Claim 7 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein the at least one latch is provided on at least one of the first walls, near the back end.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 7, wherein the at least one latch extends substantially upwardly from said at least one of the first walls, and then bends inwardly.

Claim 9 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein the at least one spring finger is defined on the back end of the supporting portion, adjacent the opening.

Claim 10 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one spring finger extends substantially in a horizontal direction, and then bends slightly upwardly.

Claim 11 (original): A land grid array (LGA) connector for electrically connecting an LGA package with a circuit substrate, the LGA connector comprising:

- a dielectric housing with a plurality of conductive terminals received therein;

- a stiffener surrounding the housing; and

- a metal clip and a lever mounted on opposite sides of the housing;

wherein the stiffener comprises a pair of spaced spring fingers and a pair of latches securing the housing therein.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 11, wherein the housing comprises a rear portion, the housing defines a pair of guiding slots in opposite sides thereof, and the rear portion defines a pair of spaced locating slots in the bottom surface.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 12, wherein the spring fingers of the stiffener are located in the locating slots of the housing, and the latches of the stiffener mate in the corresponding guiding slots and are engaged on the top surface of the housing.

Claim 14 (original): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 13, wherein the stiffener comprises a substantially rectangular supporting portion, the supporting portion comprises a front end, a back end, and a pair of sides respectively interconnecting the front and back ends, and the front and back ends and the sides cooperatively define a central opening therebetween.

Claim 15 (original): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 14, wherein each side has a first wall extending therefrom, and the front and back ends respectively each have a second wall extending therefrom.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 15, wherein the first walls extend substantially upwardly from the sides, and the second walls extend substantially upwardly from the respective front and back ends, and then bend inwardly and extend in substantially horizontal directions.

Claim 17 (original): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 16, wherein the latches are respectively provided on the corresponding first walls, near the back end.

Claim 18 (original): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 17, wherein each latch extends substantially upwardly from the corresponding first wall, and then bends inwardly.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 16, wherein the spring fingers are defined on the back end of the supporting portion, adjacent the opening.

Claim 20 (original): The LGA connector as claimed in claim 19, wherein the spring fingers extend substantially in a horizontal direction, and then bend slightly upwardly.

Claims 21-23 (canceled)

Claims 24 (new) An LGA (Land Grid Array) connector comprising:
a rectangular insulative housing defining there of a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction perpendicular to each other, and including a main portion a periphery portion surrounding the main portion;

a rectangular frame-like metallic stiffener defining an opening to grasp said periphery portion;

a clip essentially pivotally about a first longitudinal end of the housing and defining a locking hook adjacent to a second longitudinal end of the housing opposite to the first longitudinal end when said clip is in a horizontal locked position;

a lever essentially pivotally moved about the second longitudinal end of the housing to lock said clip in the horizontal locked position; and

said stiffener defining a spring finger engaged with the housing to prevent a relatively vertical movement between the housing and the stiffener.

Claim 25 (new) The connector as claimed in claim 24, wherein said relatively vertical movement refers to a downward movement of the housing relative to the stiffener.

Claim 26 (new) An LGA (Land Grid Array) connector comprising:
a rectangular insulative housing defining there of a longitudinal direction and a transverse direction perpendicular to each other, and including a main portion a periphery portion surrounding the main portion;

a rectangular frame-like metallic stiffener defining an opening to grasp said periphery portion;

a clip essentially pivotally about a first longitudinal end of the housing and defining a locking hook adjacent to a second longitudinal end of the housing opposite to the first longitudinal end when said clip is in a horizontal locked position;

a lever essentially pivotally moved about the second longitudinal end of the housing to lock said clip in the horizontal locked position; and

one of said stiffener and said housing defining a spring finger engaged with the other to prevent a relatively vertical movement between the housing and the stiffener.